

HEALTH  
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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1942.

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Altrincham.

LIBRARY

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
the Borough of Altrincham.

My Worship and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the sixth Annual Report of  
the Municipal Borough of Altrincham dealing with the health of the  
Borough for the year 1942.

Circular 2773 of the Ministry of Health directs that the Annual  
Report of the Medical Officer of Health be prepared on the lines  
indicated in Circular 2604 dated 24th March, 1942. Certain information,  
therefore, should not be published as it might, indirectly, prove of  
value to the enemy.

The estimated population of the Borough will not be included nor  
the respective Rates in regard to Births and Deaths nor the existence  
or otherwise of Day Nurseries within the Borough. In the interest of  
economy in the use of paper the Report omits many other details that  
remain substantially the same as in former Reports.

The Rateable Value of the Borough is £302,843.  
The sum represented by a penny Rate is £1223.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of Births registered in, and allocated to, the Borough  
of Altrincham in 1942 is Live Births 551, Still Births 19.

Live Births, ... ..	M. 291, F. 260.
Still Births, .. ...	M. 14, F. 5.
Live Illegitimate Births,	M. 11, F. 20.

There was one male Illegitimate Still Birth.

The percentage of all Births (Live and Still) is 5.6 illegitimate.  
In 1941 this percentage was 4.2. In 1940 it was 2.4.

The Birth Rate in the Borough for 1942 was lower than that of  
England and Wales.

Deaths.

The total number of Deaths corrected for Outward and Inward  
transfer is 407 (M. 214, F. 193).

The number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age is 28  
(M. 18, F. 10). There was no illegitimate Infantile Death.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the Borough is 50. That of  
England and Wales is 49. In 1941 the Infantile Mortality Rate for the  
Borough was 61. 17 of these Infantile Deaths were due to Premature  
Birth, Congenital Malformations, etc.

The Death Rate for the Borough in 1942 was less than that of  
England and Wales. For the reason already stated no precise comparable  
rates can be indicated. The exact figures will be communicated to the  
members of the Borough Council and the County Medical Officer of Health.

During the third year of war the state of the Public Health in  
the Borough of Altrincham has been excellent.

# CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Cerebro-spinal Fever, ... ..	1	(M. 1, F. 0)
Scarlet Fever, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Whooping Cough, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Diphtheria, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System, ... ..	11	(M. 8, F. 3)
Other forms of Tuberculosis, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Syphilitic Diseases, ... ..	3	(M. 3, F. 0)
Influenza, ... ..	4	(M. 2, F. 2)
Measles, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Acute Encephalitis, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Cancer of Mouth and Oesophagus, ... ..	1	(M. 1, F. 0)
Cancer of Uterus, ... ..	0	(M. 0, F. 0)
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum, ... ..	15	(M. 10, F. 5)
Cancer of Breast, ... ..	2	(M. 0, F. 2)
Cancer of all other sites, ... ..	25	(M. 17, F. 8)
Diabetes, ... ..	2	(M. 0, F. 2)
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions, ... ..	46	(M. 19, F. 27)
Heart Disease, ... ..	105	(M. 48, F. 57)
Other Diseases of Circulatory System, ... ..	23	(M. 10, F. 13)
Bronchitis, ... ..	17	(M. 13, F. 4)
Pneumonia, ... ..	22	(M. 14, F. 8)
Other Respiratory Diseases, ... ..	7	(M. 4, F. 3)
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum, ... ..	4	(M. 3, F. 1)
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age, ... ..	2	(M. 1, F. 1)
Appendicitis, ... ..	2	(M. 0, F. 2)
Other Digestive Diseases, ... ..	8	(M. 1, F. 7)
Nephritis, ... ..	7	(M. 5, F. 2)
Puerperal Fever and Post Abortion Sepsis, ... ..	0	(F. 0)
Other Maternal Causes, ... ..	2	(F. 2)
Premature Birth, ... ..	9	(M. 5, F. 4)
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries, ... ..	8	(M. 4, F. 4)
Suicide, ... ..	8	(M. 6, F. 2)
Road Traffic Accidents, ... ..	7	(M. 3, F. 4)
Other Violent Causes, ... ..	12	(M. 7, F. 5)
All other Causes, ... ..	54	(M. 29, F. 25)

## EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF 1942.

Live Births, ... ..	551	(M. 291, F. 260)
Legitimate, ... ..	520	(M. 280, F. 240)
Illegitimate, ... ..	31	(M. 11, F. 20)
Still Births, ... ..	19	(M. 14, F. 5)
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births is	33.3	
Deaths, ... ..	407	(M. 214, F. 193)

## DEATHS.

Puerperal Sepsis, ... ..	0
Other Maternal Causes, ... ..	2
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age -	
All Infants per 1000 Births, ... ..	50
Legitimate Infants per 1000 Legitimate Live Births,	34
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate Live Births, ... ..	32
Deaths from Cancer (all ages), ... ..	43
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), ... ..	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), ... ..	2

There was no death from Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria or Measles.



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### 1. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

Such facilities are now provided locally by the Board of Management of the Altrincham General Hospital for the benefit of general practitioners submitting pathological specimens for investigation.

During 1942, 214 specimens of sputum were bacteriologically examined for Tubercle Bacillus by the Public Health Laboratory of the County of Chester. 21 of these were positive.

During 1942, 249 specimens were reported on by the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine of the University of Manchester.

191 Throat and Nose swabs were examined for Diphtheria, of which 8 were positive.

9 Agglutination Tests for Typhoid Fever, etc.

12 swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci.

1 swab for Vincent's Angina.

5 samples of Cerebro-Spinal Fluid.

Milk - 9 samples for bacterial count and Bacillus Coli.

21 samples for Methylene Blue reduction test and Bac. Coli.

1 sample for chemical analysis.

#### (b) Ambulance Facilities.

There are 3 well equipped Ambulances for the use of the Civil population. These Ambulances are garaged at the Town Hall. There is one Ambulance garaged at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of infectious cases.

#### (c) Nursing in the Home.

There have been no changes.

#### (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics including Clinics solely for Diagnosis or Consultation.

There are two Child Welfare Centres.

##### 1. Mountlands Welfare Centre.

3 Sessions have been held each week, one on Mondays and two on Wednesdays.

1 Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

1 Post-Natal Clinic is held on the third Tuesday of each month.

##### 2. Park Road Centre, Homestead, Timperley.

4 Sessions are held each week, two on Tuesdays and two on Thursdays.

Medical Consultations during 1942 at these Clinics were as follows:-

1328	-	M. 760,	F. 568.	Under one year	739.
				Over one year	589.

Mountlands. Total 701. M. 407, F. 294. Under one year 454.  
Over one year 247.

Homestead. Total 627. M. 353, F. 274. Under one year 285.  
Over one year 342.

(e) Hospitals - Public and Voluntary.

There has been no change.

(f) Immunisation Clinics.

Clinics have been held every 4 weeks at each of the 2  
Welfare Centres.

The number of children immunised is 957 in 1942.

At the Clinics ... ..	Under 5 years of age,	492.
	Over 5 years of age,	<u>323.</u>
		<u>815.</u>

By Private Practitioners	Under 5 years of age,	30.
	Over 5 years of age,	<u>112.</u>
		<u>142.</u>

Total ... ..	Under 5 years of age,	522.
	Over 5 years of age,	<u>435.</u>
		<u>957.</u>

2. Maternity and Child Welfare.

1. Midwifery and Maternity Services.

It is now expected that all pregnant women not under the care of a medical practitioner shall attend, accompanied by the midwife of their choice, at the Ante-Natal Clinic.

2. Arrangements for Dental Orthopaedic, etc. Cases.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held each week at the Altrincham General Hospital under the charge of an Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Dental Treatment can be obtained for expectant and nursing mothers, and for children under 3 years in families where the net income would warrant free treatment.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

ANNUAL REPORT 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report of the work of this department from January 1st to December 31st 1942.

Number of live births notified.	276 M.	248 F.	524
" " stillbirths	11 M.	6 F.	17
			-----
Total notified.			541.
			-----

Total notified during 1941, 503.

Visits by Senior Health Visitor.

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year,	271
" " subsequent " " " " "	798
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years,	940
Number of first visits to expectant mothers,	69
" " subsequent " " " " "	56
" " Infant Life Protection visits,	44
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Total visits.	2178
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Total visits during 1941. 2602.

Visits by Second Health Visitor.

Number of first visits to Infants under 1 year.	226
" " subsequent " " " " " "	1179
Total visits to children 1 to 5 years.	1246
Number of first visits to expectant mothers,	48
" " subsequent " " " " " "	19
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Total visits.	2718

Total visits during 1941. 2876.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The Mountlands.

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year.	292
Total number of children weighed under 1 year.	5531
Number who attended for the 1st time between 1 & 5 years.	42
Total number weighed between 1 & 5 years	4747

Total number weighed. 10,278.

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for the 1st time under 1 year.	10
Total attendances.	99

There were 151 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 68.

Total number weighed during 1941 9206.

Average attendance at each session 61 for 149 sessions.



### ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This Clinic is held on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month.  
Number of expectant mothers attending for first time 138  
Total number of attendances 302  
There were 24 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance of 12 per session.  
Total number of attendances during 1941, 347.  
Average number per session, 14 for 24 sessions.

### POST-NATAL CLINIC.

This Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month.  
Total number of attendances 55.  
Total 1941, 62.

### SEWING CLASS.

This class was opened 20 times during the year and was attended by 290 mothers, making an average of 14 per session.  
Health talks are given at this class.  
Number attending during 1941, 642.  
Average per session 16 for 42 sessions.

### Park Road Centre.

#### Homestead.

Number of children who attended for 1st time under 1 year.	209
Total number of children weighed under 1 year	4781
Number who attended for 1st time between 1 & 5 years	45
Total number weighed between 1 & 5 years.	5640

Total number weighed 10,421.

Number of individual cases from outside districts who attended for 1st time, Under 1 yr. <u>21</u> . Over 1 yr. <u>4</u> . Total	25
Total attendances, Under 1 yr. <u>189</u> . Over 1 yr. <u>6</u> . Total	195

There were 204 sessions held during the year, making an average attendance at each session of 51.  
Total number weighed during 1941, 9942.  
There were 200 sessions held, making an average of 49 per session.

### CHILDREN & YOUNG PERSONS' ACTS, 1908 & 1932.

Number of foster mothers on the register at the end of the year.	5
" " children " " " " " " " " " "	5
" " cases removed from register	4
" " new cases added to register	2
Total visits paid	<u>44</u> .

### IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

The above Clinic has been held once each month at both Centres on Saturday mornings.

The number completely immunised at 31st Dec. 1942 was -  
Mountlands 472. Homestead 358. Total 830.

Total 1941 1552.

I wish to express my appreciation of the work of the Voluntary Helpers at the Clinics and request that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to them.

H. W. BARDSLEY,

Senior Health Visitor.

# SUMMARY OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

Enteric Fever, ... ..	No	notifications.
Scarlet Fever, ... ..	25	"
Whooping Cough, ... ..	29	"
Diphtheria, ... ..	8	"
Erysipelas, ... ..	9	"
Smallpox, ... ..	No	"
Measles, .. ...	322	"
Pneumonia, ... ..	39	"
Puerperal Pyrexia, ... ..	3	"

## TUBERCULOSIS - New Cases and Mortality during 1942.

Age Periods. Years.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M	F.	M	F.
0 to 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-
5 to 15	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
15 to 25	3	2	3	1	1	-	-	-
25 to 35	6	3	1	5	-	2	-	-
35 to 45	6	1	-	2	5	-	-	-
45 to 55	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	3	1	-	-	1	2	-	-
TOTAL	27	8	7	14	7	4	-	-

I apologise for the severe austerity type of this Report. I am again indebted for the valuable assistance of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Senior Health Visitor, for which I thank them.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

R. REID DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health.

